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**REVOLUTIONARY PENSION DECLARATIONS FROM
PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VIRGINIA.**

(Contributed by Mrs. N. E. Clement, Chatham, Va.)

ROBERT FERGUSON.

On this 22nd day of August 1832 Personally appeared before the court of Pitts. now sitting, Robert Ferguson, a resident of said county & State aforesaid, aged Seventy Two years, and made the following declaration on his oath—that he entered the Service of the U. S. some time in year 1779 as a Substitute for Bazabiel Wier & marched from the County of Pitts. in a Company of Militia commanded by Capt. Witcher to Salisbury in the state of N. C. & joined the N. C. Militia in that place under Colo. Mason, he was stationed there two or three months, then marched to Charlotte in said state N. C. & remained at that place a few days, they were marched from there, for some time in various directions untill they arrived at Stone Inlet on coast of S. C. & were stationed near that place until their term of service ended, being Six months. that his discharge is lost and cannot be found, He does not know any person living that was with him on that tour but the Service rendered is Proved by Bazabiel Wier who employed him as his Substitute. In the Spring 1780 he was employed by Joseph Terry to assist him in driving a Parcel of Cattle into the State of N. C., when they arrived at Wilks Court House about the 15th day of May 1780. He again entered the Service of the U. S. as a Volunteer soldier and marched from the said County of Wilks in state aforesaid in a Company commanded by Capt. Wm. Cleveland & joined the Regiment commanded by Colo. John Cleveland, that they continued marching in various directions Sometimes down the Catawba River, not being stationed long at any One Place, they were Principally engaged in Searching for, and taking Tories untill about the first of October, they returned to said Wilks C.

H. & were there discharged by Colo. Cleveland. The whole of the time rendered on this tour was at least 4 months & 15 days. His discharge is lost and cannot be found.

About the first of December 1780 he again entered the Service of the united States as a substitute for Wm. Bennett and marched from the County of Pitts. State of Va. in a company of drafted Militia commanded by Capt. John Winn to the Island Ford on Dan River, from there to the great falls on the said Dan River where Danville is now situated, from there they marched to the state of N. C. & joined the Main Army under Gen'l Stephens and Gen'l Lawson. He was then transferred to a company commanded by Capt. Wm. Dix and marched with him in the Army as aforesaid in various directions, not being stationed long at any one place, but sometimes marched nearly all night, untill they met with Lord Cornwallis in the county of Guilford, when a severe Battle was fought, the Americans were defeated in that engagement & retreated to Troublesome Iron Works near Haw River, where they were again organized and marched from that place under Gen'l Green in Pursuit of the British untill they arrived at Ramseys Mill on Deep River in state of N. C. He was discharged at that Place by Capt. William Dix in month of April 1781—the whole tour of service rendered on this tour is at least four months. His discharge is lost but his service can be proved by James M. Williams, who was a soldier with him at same time & place.

About last of Ap. 1781 he was drafted as a soldier and marched from Co. of Pitts. in a Company of Militia commanded by Capt. Henry Burnett, thro Halifax Co. to Charlotte C. H. & joined the army at that place under Gen'l Lawson, was transferred to a comp'y commanded by Capt. John Buckly, attached to the Regiment commanded by Maj'r Purnell; from there was marched to Prince Edward C. H. and from there through Cumberland Co. & crossed James River at Carter's Ferry & continued to march until they came to Dandridges Old field in Hanover County when he was again transferred to a company commanded by Capt. Wm. Clark. He marched with him under Maj. Purnell in said Army to a place called Morben Hill about 17 miles below Rich.; was stationed there several weeks, then

marched the whole Army under Baron Steuben, Gen'l Green, Stephens and Lawson to Jamestown. A Battle was fought at that place, after which they went back to Morben Hill where they were stationed until he was discharged by Capt. Wm. Clark about last of July 1781. the whole service rendered on this tour was three months his discharge is lost and cannot be found but the service Rendered is proved by Leroy Shelton, who was a soldier with him in same Companies & at same time.

That as soon as he returned home from Serving the above tour, which was in the month of August 1781 he enlisted with Wm. McCraw, who was a Deputy Quarter Master for the Southern Army at Peytonsburg, Pittsylvania Co., Va., during the war & remained in the service of the U. S., engaged as a waggoner driving the public teams under the command of the said Wm. McCraw untill after the end of the War. The whole time service rendered under this enlistment was at least one year. His discharge is lost, but his service can be proved by Jas. M. Williams, who was in same service with McCraw.— Was born in Co. of Halifax, state of Va., year 1761.

Lived in Pitts. Co. when entered the service of U. S. & has lived in said Co. ever since.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

his

Robert X Ferguson.

mark

ABRAHAM CHANEY.

On this 22nd day of August, 1832, Personally appeared in open court before Dan'l Coleman, Jas. Logan, David H. Clark & Wm. D. Pannill, the court of Pitts. now sitting, Abraham Chaney a resident of said county, aged 72 yrs. and made following declaration on his oath—

That he entered the service of the U. S. as a Volunteer Soldier in a company of Militia commanded by Capt. Donaldson, jr., Lieut. Moses Hutchings & Ensign Joseph Williams, & marched from the County of Pittsylvania on the 9th day of April 1776 and went thro Franklin Co., crossed the Blue Ridge

at Magotty Gap, New River at Englishes Ferry and continued on to the Islands of Holston River & was stationed on that river in a fort; from that Place, Capt. Donaldson with 15 men, of whom he was one, went out to search for the Cherokee Indians, ranging Principally thro' the woods in Various directions for about two weeks when they returned to the same fort where they remained until their tour of duty being for three months expired. When he was discharged by Capt. Donalson at that place in the month of July 1776, about 300 miles from home making in all the time rendered on this tour including the time to travel home at least $3\frac{1}{2}$ months.

His discharge is lost or mislaid so that it cannot be found but the service rendered is proved by Joshua Dodson who was a soldier with him all the time.

He again entered the Service of the U. S. as a soldier in a company of Militia commanded by the same Capt. John Donalson, jr., Lieut. John Gwinn, and marched from the said Pittsylvania Co. on 7th day of April 1778, went thro' the county of Franklin to Colo. Preston in Montgomery, remained near his House a few days and marched from there to Hatfield Fort on Stoney Creek near New River in said Co. Montgomery, & was stationed at that place under the said Officers (no other troops being there) until the 12th of Aug. 1778, when he was discharged by Capt. Donalson, the time of this tour being four months & 8 days. His discharge is lost, but proved by John Neal & John Farthing, who were soldiers with him at that place.

In the winter of 1781 he was drafted as a Militia soldier & marched from the Co. of Pitts. in a company under the command of Capt. Clements, thro the County of Halifax into N. C. to Hillsborough and was there taken sick Placed in a Hospital near that Place & was confined there two months & 15 days, when he hired his Brother Joseph Chaney to take his place—Joseph was received as a Substitute for him & he was discharged from the service being still sick. His discharge is lost & cannot be found.

Relinquishes pension in other Rolls of Agency.

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

his

Abraham X Chaney.

mark*

DANIEL BRADLEY.

On 22 day of August 1832, personally appeared in open court before David Clark, Wm. L. Pannill, &c., county court of Pitts. now sitting, Daniel Bradley, a resident of the Co. of Pitts. & made following declaration—

That he first enlisted and entered the service of the U. S.—as a regular soldier in the 1st Va. Regt. of Southern Army, was enlisted by Ensign Belew in Cumberland County, Va., where he then resided, on the 1st of July 1780, engaged to serve for 18 mo^e and was marched by Capt. Alexander Grothemy from Cumberland Co. to Chesterfield C. H., the place of rendezvous where he was put under command of Capt. White, whose command was attached to the armed force commanded by Col. Campbell, Mulenburg—the commanding general, from there he marched under the command of Col. Campbell and Capt. Morton to Guilford C. H. or its neighborhood & was engaged in the Battle of Guilford commanded by Maj. General Greene. From thence after that Battle he marched under Colo. Campbell & Maj. Gen'l Greene and Capt. Morgan, who fell in on the way to ninety-six, where he remained 31 days, the whole month of May 1781. From thence he marched under the same General officers, Campbell and Greene, skirmishing & taking by the way Scotch lake Fort, Friday's Fort, Thompsons Fort, Augusta Fort, the Blockhouse to Camden, where they were stationed for 10 days. From thence he was marched under the same officers, Capt. Morgan, Colo. Campbell & General Greene to the Eutaw Springs, where on the 8th of Sept. 1781 he was engaged in that Battle. From there they reconnoitered about that Section of the country, checking the enemy, during which time they remained several weeks on the High hills of Santee, the Place of Rendezvous. From there they were marched under Lieut. Greene, Capt. Morgan being wounded at Eutaw Springs, to Stone; from thence to Salisbury in N. C. where he was discharged by Lieut. Greene. That his discharge is mislaid or lost, that he has no documentary evidence to prove the facts required.

his

Daniel X Bradley.

mark

JAMES HOPKINS.

On this 17th day of Sept. personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the court of Pitts. now sitting, James Hopkins, a resident in the state of Va. in the Co. of Pitts., aged sixty-seven years on the 22 day of February 1832, who being first sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration.

That he entered the service of the U. S. as a Substitute in the place of James Hopkins, Sen' sometime in the Spring 1780 and marched from the County of Amherst & State, aforesaid, under the Command of Capt. Azariah Martin, Lieu^t Wm. Holt, and Ensign — Leroy, the place of rendezvous was at Hillsborough in the State of N. Carolina. After our arrival there we were transferred to 4th Reg't Virginia Militia Commanded by Col. — Lucas from the County of Mecklenburg, the Brigade was Commanded by Brigadier Gen. Stevens, from the County of Culpeper. After remaining at Hillsborough some time, for the purpose of being disciplined, we were ordered to march to S. Carolina and join Maj. Gen'l H. Gates, Commander in Chief of the Southern Army at a place called Rugeley's Mills on the morning of the 13th August, rested the balance of the day, and 10 o'Clock at night took up the line of march to Surprize the enemy before day, who were encamped at Campden, who marched at the same hour; the two armies met on the middle ground. A Sharp Skirmish between the advanced guards took place that night (the line was formed and the men stood under arms all night)—the next morning August the 16th the line was ordered to advance and a general engagement took place about the rising of the sun, which resulted in a Shameful defeat of the Southern Army. There was no place designated, in the event of a defeat, at which we should rendezvous, we had lost all our baggage, and were destitute of any Clothing, except what little we had on. Separated from our officers and no means of Sub-sistence, under these appalling circumstances, although Our term of service was nearly expired, a Considerable number of the Company to which I belonged, determined to make the best of their way home. After our return to Amherst County, a Court of inquiry Convened and made an Order that we should all be

sent back and serve a tour of eight months under regular Officers. We were accordingly mustered and put under the Command of Cap't Pamlin who marched us back to Hillsborough, where Gen'l Green's army then lay, and we were transferred to the Command of a Cap't Graves of Co. of Culpeper who was assigned to take Command of the men sent back from a few Other Counties for the same offence. In a short time the Army was ordered to march to the South, we passed thro' Sallisbury, Charlotte, &c., and about the 1st of Jan. 1781, we took up winter quarters on North Side of Peedee river, near the Cheraw hills, S. Carolina.

Sometime in the month of Feb., if my memory is correct, there was a general order issued for all married men belonging to the eight months' Company as they were called, to be discharged, and the young men to be retained, till their term of service expired, this reduced the Company very Considerably. Capt. Graves was permitted to return home with those men that were discharged, and the balance retained in service were placed under the command of a Cap't Webb and Lieut. Webb, who I understood came from about Richmond in Virginia. Shortly after this Gen'l Morgan defeated Col. Tarlton at a place called Cowpens, and took a number of prisoners, and had to make a rapid retreat to save them from being retaken by the enemy. As soon as Gen. Greene received the information, he immediately marched off the Army to Cover Morgan's retreat, and left this small Company of eight months' men, some of whom were stationed at mills to guard them and keep them employed in grinding meal and flower for the use of the Army, and some to guard the encampment. Finally Capt. Webb received Orders to take charge of eight or ten waggons, loaded with meal and flower, and about four hundred head of Hogs, and to follow on after the Army, and we were in fact, in rear of both armies.

When we reached Deep river in N. Carolina intending to go to Guilford C. H., we there received intelligence that Cornwallis was at the place, we then had to change our rout, turned to the right, went thro' Hillsborough & Granville County, and crossed the Roanoke river at Taylor's Ferry, near which place in the County of Mecklenburg, in State of Va., was a Com-

missaries Store, where the Cap^t delivered the meal, flower Hogs &c., which we protected and brought safe through a part of our Country that at that time was literally speaking in the hands of the British and tories. By this time our term of service was nearly expired, we were permitted to draw up a Petition, & send it on by express to Gen. Greene, stating our situation, that we were almost naked, almost worn out with fatigue, & praying him to send orders to the Cap^t to discharge us, which he did and we met the express in the county of Halifax, near Banister river in State of Va., where the Company were accordingly discharged, which was about the 1st of March 1781. This discharge has long since been destroyed, he has no documentary evidence to prove his service; he claims to have served in the whole nine months.

He hereby relinquishes every Claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

James Hopkins.

JAMES NANCE.

James Nance, age 70 yrs., on 17 day of Sept. 1832 made following declaration before open court of Pitts. Co., Va—

That he was born on 2^d day of Feb. 1762 in the County of Amelia (now Nottoway) Va., according to his Father's Register, which is not in his possession; that he entered the service of the U. S. as a drafted Soldier on the 9th day of February 1779 under Capt. Wm. Fitzgerald, Lieut. Charles Irby, Ensign Bowling Hall, and marched to Halifaxtown, N. C., where he joined Col. David Mason of Va. & marched from thence to Hillsborough & Salisbury, N. C. and joined General Lincoln at Stone Camp, S. C., and fought a hard Battle with the British on the 20th of June 1779, in which he was engaged from the commencement to the end, after which he marched back to camp where he remained some time. That he knew Count Pulaskie and General Parsons, &c., from thence was marched to Camden, S. C. and discharged in August 1779. After serving a tower of 6 months, that he acted as fifer and was disbanded by Col. Mason, and returned to Amelia, Va. on 10th Aug. 1779.

In the year 1780 he served a tower of Duty under Capt. Gray, belonging to the United States Army, commanded by Col. White. The fall of same year, he was called on to render service agreeably to draughted numbers and served a tower of 3 months under Capt. Irby, Lieut's name not recollected, was marched to Petersburg, Va., from there to Cabbin point, thence to Markeys mills thence to Nancemond, thence to a place not recollected, and returned to Nancymun, he then interted (can't make this word out) in the calvary under Chas. Irby, for during (can't make this word out) the War, upon condition that he could procure a horse, was priviledged to go home & get a horse & return to camp, & in the event he could not get a horse, his absence was to be counted as on furlow; when he got home it being inconvenient to procure a horse and a young man in the neighborhood by the name of Elisha Gunn being called on to join Genl. Greene in opposition to Lord Cornwallice, the said Gunn and himself changed towers, and being organized he marched under Capt. Overstreet and joined headquarters on troublesome Creak, N. C. After various marches they met the British and had a severe Battle at Gilford Courthouse, after marching to deep river, at ramsey's mills, Chatham County, N. C., he was honourably discharged, by Brigadier General Lawson of the Va. troops, after which he returned to Amelia county, Va. There he remained until the 5th day of Jan. 1801 at which time he removed to Wake Co. N. C., where he has remained ever since, & being on a visit to friends in Pitts. Co. Va., avails himself of the opportunity to make his declaration, having it more in his power to establish his services here than in N. C., serving as a Militiaman there was no written discharge given to such.

his
James X Nance.
mark

WILLIAM DEWS.

On this 20th day of August 1832 personally appeared before the Court of the County of Pittsylvania now sitting, Wm. Dewes,

a resident of said Co., aged 80 yrs. who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make following declaration—

That he enlisted in the Army of the U. S. in the month of Feb. 1776 for two yrs. with Lieut. Henderson in Cap^t Walkers Company, then stationed at Charlottesville in the County of Albemarle, Va. On the 15th day of that month this company left Charlottesville & marched direct to Gloucester Court House, Va. & from there they marched to Chesapeake Bay, and went across to the County of Northampton & was there attached to the 9th Reg't of the Va. line under the Command of Col. George Matthews and Major Ivins. That they were stationed in said Co. of Northampton untill about the 19th or 20th of Dec. 1776, when they were marched from there to Morristown in New Jersey and joined the army under Gen'l George Washington at that place in January 1777, where he had taken up Winter Quarters.

Early in the Spring following a picked Company was made up from the different regiments and Placed under the command of Lieut. Henderson who acted as Capt. of which he said Wm. Dews was one. This Company was put under Col. Daniel Morgan, who commanded a Rifle choir and was with him in three engagements. On one day, first at Brunswick where the British had wintered, the 2^d and third near the same place, that he continued with Col. Morgan Several months until he was ordered to Albany. That he left Col. Morgan near Summerset C. H., New Jersey, and returned under the command of Lieut. Martin to the said 9th Reg^t under Col. Matthews and was stationed at the Cross Roads near Philadelphia when the British arrived at the head of Elk River. He was placed under the Command of Col. Richard Parker and was with him in the Battle of Brandywine on the 11th of September 1777. Soon after that he was again transferred to the 9th Regiment with Colo. Matthews and was with him in the Battle of Germantown when his Regiment was defeated by the British and he, said Dews, was taken Prisoner on the 4th of October 1777 and carried to Philadelphia and put in Jail, kept there about eight months and was then carried by the British to New York and kept under guard 18 days. Then exchanged at Elizabeth River about the 17th

July 1778, then marched to the White plains in the State of New York and there discharged about the last of the same month. The whole of the service rendered under this enlistment including the time of his being a prisoner with the British is two yrs. and about 6 months. His discharge was destroyed by the British in the town of Petersburg, Va., soon after he obtained it, but the service rendered is proved by the affidavits of David Street and Dudley Calloway, who were regular soldiers with him in the revolutionary War. That he resided in the county of Albemarle when he entered the service of the U. S. in the yr. 1776. After his discharge from said service in yr. 1778, he resided for some time in the town of Petersburg, Va. He now resides and has lived in the Co. of Pittsylvania for about 50 years. Thereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency of any State.

his

William X Dews.

mark

I, Dudley Calloway of the Town of Lynchburg in the Co. of Campbell and State of Va., do hereby certify and do Solemnly Swear that I enlisted a Soldier in the Army of the Revolution in the year 1776 and Served in the 5th Regiment of the Va. line for about 16 mo. when he was detached from said 5th Reg't & put under the command of Col. Daniel Morgan, who commanded a Rifle Choir and Served with said Morgan, that he then became acquainted with Wm. Dews of Pitts. Co., Va., who was a regular Soldier in the 9th Reg't under Col. Matthews, that he the said Wm. Dews was also detached from 9th Reg't and was put under Col. Morgan and served with me under said Morgan several months, when he was put back with said Col. Matthews of the said 9th Regiment, and I was informed that said Dews was in Battle of Germantown and taken prisoner by the British and kept several months. That I believe the said Wm. Dews enlisted for two years and served faithfully as soldier in the Army of the Revolution. Given under my hand & seal this 14th day of August 1832.

Dudley Calloway. (Seal)

WILLIAM M. NANCE.

William M. Nance, aged 72 years, Sept. 17, 1832, personally appeared in open court in Pitts. Co. & made following declaration—

That he was born on the 18th January 1760, in County of Amelia, now Nottoway, Va., according to his father's register which is not in his possession, that he entered the service of the U. S. as a substitute for Wm. Mitchel in the year 1777 under Capt. Gabriel Fowlke, Jno. Knight, Lieut. & Wm. Brookin, Ensign, at the Court House of Amelia Co., Va., and marched to Williamsburg & joined the Regiment under the Command of Col. Vivian Brookin and after remaining there a short time was ordered to Hampton where he joined the army under the command of General Tho^s Nelson, where he served several months, the particular time not recollected but think it was not less than 3 months and was disbanded by Col. Brookin at Hampton without any regular discharge and returned home where he remained until early in the month of Feb. 1779 when he was drafted and marched under Capt. Wm. Fitzgerald, Lieut. Charles Irby to Halifax Town, North Carolina where he joined Col. David Mason and marched thro' Hillsborough, Salisbury, N. Carolina and joined Gen. Lincoln at Stone Camp, South Carolina & fought a hard Battle with the British on the 20th of June 1779 in which he was engaged from the Commencement to the end after which he marched back to Camp where he remained some time. Knew Count Pulaskie, Genl. Parsons, etc., and from thence was marched to Camden, S. Carolina and disbanded in August 1779, after serving a tour of 6 months, during which time he was orderly sergeant & was disbanded by Col. Mason. Returned to Amelia, Va., where he remained till Dec. 1780, when he removed to County of Pitts., where he has resided ever since and in the year 1781 he was drafted and marched from the county afr^d under Capt. Chas. Williams, Lieut. Dix or Hunt. he does not recollect which, to York Town, Va., where he was regularly engaged in the siege until the Surrender, 2 days after which he with the other sick of the Troops of Pitts. was discharged by General Stephens which discharge is lost or mislaid.

Wm. M. Nance.